

PRIVATE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY

CROSBY POST

NO 8 NEW SERIES
JUNE 1966



SOME FISH?
SOME HOPE!

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18, North Road, Surbiton
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An X here signifies that
your membership expires with
this issue of Crosby Post.
To renew your membership
please send a blank 7/6 PO
to Frank Murphy - Please
renew promptly in order
that we can continue to
mail you Crosby Post.

Members articles, poems,
pen-pal requests, and lists
of Bing records for sale or
wanted, should be sent to
the editors for inclusion
in the magazine.

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A very special welcome to the following
new members of the club ,

Miss Shirley Brewerton, 13, Morley Str,
Heaton, Newcastle on Tyne.
Master Joseph Davenport, 75, Amherst Rd,
Fawdon, Newcastle on Tyne.
Mr Bill Onery, 29, Tedworth Gardens,
Chelsea, London. S. W. 3.
Mr David Fleming, 80, Cromwell Str,
West End, Newcastle on Tyne.
Miss Lily Edwards, 95, Mereside, Leam
Lane Est, Gateshead on Tyne.
Mrs Catherine Brady, 116, Tynemouth Rd,
High Howdon, Wallsend, Northumberland.
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Heaton, Newcastle on Tyne.
Miss Doreen Scope, 64, Weldon Cres,
High Heaton, Newcastle on Tyne.
Miss Jamie Stobbs, 205, Whitfield Rd,
Scotswood, Newcastle on Tyne.
Mrs Lily Hurley, 42, Bollingbroke Str,
Heaton, Newcastle on Tyne.
Mrs Iris Elliot, 243, Scotswood Rd,
Newcastle on Tyne.
Miss Kathleen Robinson, 15, Wentworth
Place, Newcastle on Tyne.

The following donations to club funds
are gratefully acknowledged.....

Mr Michael Crampton. 3/-
Mr C Tupper 2/6.

Important note

When writing to the club officers,
would you please remember to enclose a
stamped, self addressed envelope. This
is a great help to us all and assists us
to get a speedier reply back to you.

Material for the August edition of Post
should reach the editors not later than

July 25.

Hello Members,

You just cannot keep the great Mister Crosby out of the news for long. With the wonderful success of his guest appearance in the Perry Como T.V. Show, Bing certainly started off, T.V.-wise that is, in this country, in perfect style. The apparently effortless way he sang his solos and duets with that other smooth character was marred only by the poor tele-recording we saw here. It gave Bing a false impression, that he looked every year of his age, something we all know is not true. A great pity such a superb show was even slightly spoiled. However, more of Bing may soon be seen on British T.V. screens, should the very welcome news from Mr James Green of the London "Star" prove true as he tells me in a recent letter, that the B.B.C are negotiating to buy Bing's American T.V. Spectaculars! These will certainly be very much welcomed with open hearts by all Bing's countless admirers in this old country of ours.

Then there is news of forthcoming discs to be released shortly by Bing's own company PROJECT RECORDS, so very ably supervised by SIMON RADY, President of the Company, who did such fine work on the Rosemary Clooney/Bing disc "Fancy Meeting You Here". More on Bing's discs later from Frank in the "Post".

The recently started radio-spot with Bing and Rosie is also doing well, and in time we may be treated to discs taken from these shows, together with the discs to be made from the Como Show, you will doubtless remember Bing ad libbing in the show when he and Perry started to sing the great duets and little snippets of songs, "Shall we make the other side of the record now?" The first half was made at the time Perry Guested with Bing on Bing's show.

Exciting news arrived from Dot recently. She may decide to settle in the U.S.A. en famille. This means she will not be able to continue her duties with the Society, though she will, of course, remain as a member. However, until further news, when a definite decision has been reached, her name will be omitted from the list of staff of the "Post". I know you will all join with me in wishing her all the happiness and luck she deserves, whatever she does decide.

You will all be interested in the next item I can write about. The Society has recently opened up on an advertising campaign, in an extensive effort to bring more Bing admirers into the Crosby Circle. These ads. are rather expensive so it would be appreciated that all members support the proposed RAFFLE. Frank has arranged for this issue. See later pages for details. All the cash raised by the Raffle will be given over to the advertising campaign, so dig in to those pockets, I am sure there are moths in them that haven't yet learned to fly!

For my part, I have again managed to include another fine picture of Bing and his little family in this issue. It is set pool-side at Bing's Palm Desert home and shows also the beautiful Kathryn and the little "Tex" as Bing so proudly calls his fifth son after the place of birth of his lovely wife. What a wonderful group this, maybe Larry Crosby, our Honary Vice-President, will again do us the great honour of sending us a later negative which may have the tiniest of the Bing family, little Mary Frances, included. Before passing from this point, I should to thank our Honary Vice-President for sending us such a great negative. We all appreciate the high honour we are given by being able to reproduce such personal and private photographs from Bing's own albums. Thank you, Mr Larry Crosby, from the bottom of our hearts.

Further photographic news follows later in the "Post" from Frank regarding the very kind offer by Michael Holliday, a fine camera enthusiast, who has very kindly offered us the use of wonderful negatives taken of himself and Bing when he visited him some months back. Frank has been handling these arrangements so I leave details to him, but I have seen the pictures, and they are truly worthy of Bing and Michael, so take up the offer, all of you, it is too good to miss out on!

Without such help as we get from Mr Larry Crosby, and great Bing admirers like Michael Holliday, we would find it hard to keep up the photographic side of the "Post" so do please help to support this side of the journal by taking up the offers included, then we shall get more and more pictures for our Bing collections. Well, with Radio, T.V. the New movie completed, and new L.P.s our Star of Stars is really getting down to it. Good luck to him, and God Bless him for the great charm and talent with which he entertains his countless fans. He is ever unfailing in giving his public what they want. In short he is Bing. Our Bing, All the World's Bing.

So until the next "Post" time comes around, Aloha on he steel guitar.....TONY.

April 27th.

Hi Frank and Club Members,

This time rolls around so quickly, every other month. There never seems to be any news. Have only two items to pass on this time. Hope they'll suffice. The one should be well received.... a recent article by Bing himself!

Have you seen the Perry Como Show over your way yet ? It was very good..Bing always seems to be in especially rare form when he performs "live"..and I know it will be a real treat for the British fans to see him in this medium.

Here's a review : "Like the Astaire Show, it's hard to put your finger on just why this show was such a marvelous one. Como and Crosby are, of course, old pros. That's one reason. But beyond that, I think there is a higher plateau occupied by old man Crosby, and by almost no one else. As a showman, Crosby picks up people on the same stage with him and deposits them on his old level. Como is a pretty great performer all by himself, but with Crosby, he is just a little bit better. At least that's my explanation, and if you have a better one, I'd be pleased to hear it. " That's John Crosby, New York columnist, talking. He went on to say that they are putting the medlys from the two programs on a L.P. album. Hope this is true, but I haven't any confirmation of it as yet.

Following the Como show, Bing, Kathryn and Tex, went down to Florida, and spent some weeks there at Perry Como's home. When the Actors' strike ended in Hollywood last month, they returned, and Bing finished, or is currently finishing work on "High Time".

They drove down to Palm Springs a few weeks back, to see the Crosby Boys open their new act in that town. Gary was in the audience too; Phil is the new leader of the group, taking the lead singing. They are now at the "desert Inn" in Las Vegas and will perform on Perry Como's show on T.V. on May 25th. Lindsay is building a home right next door to Bing's Palm Desert place.

That's the current happenings from here. I don't have enough information for a regular news-letter this time, but you may use this, if you wish. I was extremely sorry to hear of the passing of Bill Taylor..Truly bad news.

Sincerely, PAT.

Please turn to page II for continuation of Newsletter.



it" catches the director on the set, the lights dimmer on the sound-stage. Paramount, the two middle-aged men, both heavily made-up, stepped briskly on the set, taking off Hollywood versions of space-suits. The stars, Bing Crosby and a new-comer named Robert Hope. The movie being shot, the long titled "Road to the Moon".

Bob: Shall we putt a little Dad, or are you getting your writers workin' on how you can burglarize the ad-liba in the next scene?

Bing: Sticks and stones may break my bones.....You can't con me again, are we playing for real money this time?

Bob: Yeah, the stuff you bin stachin' away for years in that bulge in the back of your pants.

Bing: Come then my raughty Robinante, let us to the green depart. I need the small change, its like taking coin from the poor-box.

Bob: Will this do Poppa Bing, shall we putt from here, I do'nt want to tire you walkin' to the end of the studio lawn?

Bing nodded his approval, and with expert eye, surveyed the green.
Bing: Five says you don't make it, Roberto.

Bob: Youre on Daddy-O. Stand clear, at your age the breeze from my stroke might make you catch cold. Bob bends to place his ball.

Bing: Hup, Roberto, for a minute there I thought lunik three had come out of orbit. Man you're really spreading, better watch it, my suits will be tight on you.

Bob makes his putt, leaps after the ball, which stops within inches of the pot. Bing takes his position to putt.

Bing: Fair, my fermenting fellow, fair, for a beginner that is.

Bing's putt is perfect, and drops into the pot, to Hope's disgust.

Bing: Make with the five, Ski-shoot..... Ho. This I gotta franc. Confederate cabbage, does Uncle Sam know about this?

Bob: Keep it shady will yer, I got more, anyway I wish I had your dough, Dad.

Bing: I will, Oh, I will, and I wish you had it too, it would safer with you. Shall we try again, oh Nabob of the Nobodies.

Bob. Sure, you were lucky, that's all, it won't last.

Bing putts again, and again the expert eye produces the expert putt.

Bing: Man I'm percolatin'. Two more shots like that and I'll get myself out of hock wid the Government!

Bob takes time and putts again within inches of the pot.

Bob: I was robbed. Have you change of twenty, Money-bags?

Hope seats himself on the grass, removes one space-boot and the money leaves his clutching paw. Bing eyed the entire operation tongue in cheek. His hands on his hips.

Bing: New place for the petty cash, Pardner? How much have you got germinating in there?

Bing folded the bill carefully and slipped it into his back-pocket.

Bob: You putt first this time, if you can bend to place your ball.

Bing bends to do this.

Bob: First time I ever saw a singer with a built-in echo-chamber.

Despite Hope's remark timed to put Bing off his stroke, the ball drops in easily, the work of a practised hand.

Bing: Shall we make a little more movie, after all we're workin' for us, and I have the kids to support.

Bob: Has Kathy quit workin' then? Anyway it's costin me dough out here.

Bing: Yeah, she's quit pro ten, Roberto, pro ten, the stork you know.

Bob: The stork! Why don't you buy a sling-shot, it'd be cheaper to keep him away, keep Kathy workin'.

Bing: Away, what for, I got him under contract, percentage deal, the time away costs me dough, each visit the price goes down.

Bob: Would you sell me piece of him, looks like a good investment?

Bing: Old Pal, for you anything... my terms of course, Dad needs the dough, got a new oil well thats still pumpin' water.

Bob: Things must be tough. I may cry.

Bing: Terribly, Pals, I may have to sell a manse or two, still the boys are sending home a little stratch now, keeps Dad going. Meanwhile would you like a little further instruction on the use of this mighty match winner?

Bob: Yeah, but what about a real bet, Fatso. The punch lines in the next sho

Bing: Oh no. The next scene is mine in the script, and that's how it stays. make your play O digger of Divots.

Bob eyes the green with care. Putts slowly, and leaps after the ball as it drops into the pot.

Bing: Man you're makin' good, too bad its come so late in life.

Bob: I'm not a day over thirty-eight, and I don't look my age, I take lots of exercise, every day, I smash your records with a five iron.

Bing: You're only daily exercise is the morning wrestle with your girdle.

Bob: You are gagging about something sacred. I never call you "Skin-head"

Bing: You have ceased that little gibe since its become increasingly obvious to all that your own thatch is worn through to the canvas. Better get Westmore to measure you for a scalp doily, before the next movie.

Bob: He, wear a toupee, not for years yet, I'll get away without one easilly.

Bing: Yeah, but it looks a little obvious when you walk backwards away from the cameras on the set.

Bob: I'll wear a baseball cap, like you for the close-ups.

Bing: Close-ups. They haven't dared to shoot a close-up of that proboscis since it was a pimple, when I made the Singapore road movie.

Bob: You made! I'LL tell you the studio took some persuading to have you in that movie of mine, they wanted someone with talent, not tonsillitis.

Bing: They needed one actor with talent at least. Well, Bobsy, much as I enjo liftin' your loot, I seem to remember we both have loot in this movie.

Shall we crank a little more film? You know the camera men can't do a thing with you photographically after five, the old crows feet you know.

Bob: Crows feet. Man You got elephant tracks under your little blue eyeballs.

Bing: Touche, Tallow, touche. Leave us return to the treadmill.

The laughing pair trip lightly back before the cameras and lights.

Bob: Hey Bing, who's this guy Kaughty Rosinante, I nefer heard of him?

Pen Pals required.

Miss Mary Cronin of Monard, Rathpeason, Co Cork, Ireland. Would like a male or female pen-pal, aged about 20 years.

Mr John Maughan of 1, Landerdale Avenue, Wallsend, Northumberland would like a male or female pen-pal. John's interests are; Bing Crosby records and films, Tape-recording, and football.

Mr Eric Griffiths of 59, Pickhurst Rise, West Wickham, Kent, writes...

"It is my ambition to compile some kind of Discography of 16" discs and other Non-commercial discs. Not Dubbings, so if any members possess items of this nature would they please forward details to me. I would appreciate your co-operation in order that we may be able to make this information available to all members through Crosby Post.

CLUB RAFFLE

In aid of our advertising campaign

As mentioned earlier by Tony, we have arranged this raffle in an effort to raise more funds to pay for the adverts we are currently featuring in the leading musical weekly's, in an effort to boost the club membership during this our 10th anniversary year - We hope you will give this raffle your full support and so ensure the continued success of our club for Mr Bing.

Tickets price 1/- each are available direct from Frank and "the lucky winner will receive a 12" L.P. featuring Xavier Cugat and his orchestra, which Frank has personally donated from his own collection and is titled - "That Latin Beat" - write to Frank for your tickets now and please enclose a s.a.e. for the return of your tickets.

A delightful poem from Miss Frances Saint of 32A Whitworth Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton.

"BING"

- (1) Of All the men in the World,
I'm sure you will agree,
That Bing is the mostest,
Of any you can see.
- (2) He was not a passing fancy,
As you will have seen by time,
And when he sings "Gigi",
A tingle runs down my spine,
- (3) I've heard a few good singers,
And entertainers too,
Who help to pass the time away,
When you are feeling blue.
- (4) But if you want a real lift up
A whizz, slap, bang good feeling
Just listen to "Now you has Jazz"
And you'll find your senses reel
ing,
- (5) Oh BING I adore you,
You're really are divine,
I wish someone would wave a wand
And make you really mine.
- (6) But as I know this cannot be,
I wish you all the best,
For I know you'll always come top
And always beat the ~~beat~~
rest.

Introducing our new Publicity Officer Mr Jack Manners.

Hello members,

Frank has asked me for an introductory letter regarding the post of Publicity Officer, which of course is all in order. When Frank offered me same, I accepted immediately. But I must admit not without a few qualms. It is not always ~~see~~ easy to follow in another's footsteps, especially when it happens to be such an admirable fellow as Ted has been in the past.

as Ted has been in the past. However the job may not present so many difficulties as I at first imagined. Just a lot more zeal than I have hitherto been using, in my letter writing. (I am really lazy) However nothing is too much trouble in the cause of Mr Crosby, so all concerned may rest assured that I shall do my utmost to help in any way to further the cause of Mr Crosby and the British Crosby Society.

Cherio for now and thanks, Jack.

Well members, here we are once again and half way through 1960. I had hoped that by now we would have had a fair nation of new and previously unissued Bing recordings. The position at the time of writing is negative. This is a very unfortunate state of affairs and I have recently had some correspondence with the Warner Bros division of Decca over the terrific L.P. of "Join Bing and sing Along". They said they had hoped to issue this but they had run into copyright restrictions. I have written to them again requesting that the efforts be kept up to try to release it. Also I have written to the Roa division of Decca on the possibility of issuing the "How the West was Won" L.P.s. and here the position looks brighter as their reply is that these recordings are very fine indeed and they are under consideration. But that a final decision had to be arrived at.

Bing recorded 4 sides for RCA in January and 2 so far have been issued in the USA. I have these two and the one of "Music of Home" is I consider a fabulous Bing recording. It is from the Broadway musical of "Green-Willow" and the opening lyrics are sung in a brilliant manner. Bing is just superb and it's some of his best ever singing. Believe me, if only he would stick at it, he'd still be riding the top of the ladder where he belongs. I have noted since, that "Greenwillow" has only had a short run on Broadway and that Frank Loesser has offered it to US Television so with some luck, "The Music Of Home" may be available here much sooner. Talking of the Bing record position which is now serious outside of the USA, I have sent several letters to Mr Simon Rady on the subject. He is President of Project Records of which Bing is a part owner. So I hope he can consider a few of my points and persuade Bing to record more.

I think the main aim of we fans in England must be to get Bing on the Radio programmes as much as possible and I suggest that even if you have no chance of hearing a request please send a card off to the BBC or to Radio Luxemburg. Actually I listen to most of the BBC programmes and Bing is on as much as anybody, though I do know from the BBC that not so many requests are received for Bing discs as there used to be and the DJ's very often snap up a card requesting Bing, out of allegiance to him. Get those requests going, members, to Family Favourites, Good Morning, Peter Cilla The Tune, Just for You, etc, and let's all do our bit.

For those of you who are interested, the "How The West Was Won" LPs were recorded last July on a four day session and being as they were the first ever recordings for the newly formed Project Records concern, they were given no matrix numbers and only the recordings associated with Bing were noted for recording dates.

I liked Bing very much in the Perry Como Show. He sure proved his great versatility and his voice sounded so youthful. He and Perry put on some great duetting with brilliant timing. Actually, we would have had the real Bing had he done a nice slow solo, I thought we were in for it when he started on "That's An Irish Lullaby".

Rumour has it that RCA in U.S. will issue an L.P. of part of the show and part of the Bing show on which Perry guested. It also looks as though RCA will make a 2nd Bing/Rosemary Clooney L.P.

Mr Bones Howe, a recording engineer tells me that Bing has done so much recording that he does not bother much of how they turn out. The fact being that he can knock a first rate job out on a first take. The fact that Bing no longer cares gives me a little laugh every time I play that good old 78 of "Open up your Heart". At the very end of the recording Bing leaves out the 'H' and sings "Open up your art". He obviously couldn't be persuaded for a retake.

I note that one of Bing's old friends, the famous Gene Austin, a great recording star of the 20s & early 30s, is making a comeback after close on 30 years in retirement. This artist had a fabulous career and achieved sales of over 86 million discs sold. Up to the present time, this figure is the nearest to the world record which is held by Bing with sales which now total over 150 million discs sold. Bing passed Gene Austin's figure in about 1945 but it goes to show the might of Mr Austin, as the days in which his records sold were no boom years.

All the best till next time, Les Gaylor.

Our sincere thanks to Les for his ever welcome contribution to Post.

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for now of the MICHAEL HOLLIDAY/BING CROSBY snaps which which have been made available to the club members by Michael himself.

...which was to combine work with pleasure, and reveal a weakness in his
artistic selections. Parliament sent him to the land of the lovely hula and
tavernly hula, to film "Waikiki Wedding" with Martha Mayo, the comedienne
of the mammoth mouth.

Bing took to Hawaiian shirts like Dorothy Lamour was later to take to
frogs, his favoured style, with the tails hanging outside his slacks has
become as much a trademark as have his hats. Just what colours Bing thinks
he is wearing can be only imagined, as it is common knowledge that his colour
perception is well below normal. He is, however, able to distinguish the
primary colours, of red, blue and yellow, though with some effort. He is also
fond of all three, and often tries to blend them all at the same time. Left
to himself he would walk happily out wearing a magenta tie, an heliotrope
shirt, green slacks, check socks and top the entire melange with an orange
elf-cap, yet remaining blissfully happy with the thought that he is a true
symphony in greys.

On being confronted with green, orange, or purple his identification
begins to falter; show him beige, coriase or chartreuse, and he is lost. His
friends are of the opinion that he regards Hawaiian shirts as blends of grey.
Hope was once quoted as saying, "Some mornings I have to wear dark glasses
Bing is the only man I know who gets up in the morning, leaves his pyjama-top
and wears it as a shirt all day."

Bing can often be seen on the links he frequents, rather more than
colourfully attired, but can also be seen, though less often, dressed in an
immaculately well-tailored dinner-jacket; worn with the same effortless ease
in which he wears slacks and a Hawaiian shirt. Indeed for a charity function
on a rare premier visit, he may be induced to change the tail of such a shirt
for the impeccable tails of full evening dress. The effect on the public on
these rare occasions is terrific, yet the change remains in the clothes, the
man is the same, as unaffected by the clamour and impassioned audience as he
is at the lake-side with a tried-and-true rod in his hands. There is no
false-front with this man, he has remained unchanged over thirty years in the
fierce eye of the public. Everything he does is news, because he is Bing
Crosby, everything he buys costs him more, because he is Bing Crosby. His life
is led the way he wants to lead it, he works hard because he wants to, and
plays hard, because he wants to. When the work is done he retires to his
home and family, and when vacation time comes around, he packs-off into the
mountains for a long hunting and fishing trip. These trips are done on horse-
back, and the party, usually a couple of friends of the golfing world, or an
associate in some business or other, a couple of guides too, trek off into
the snow-regions of Jasper Park, sleeping in tents, often returning with a
few mountain goats and several moose. Bing also takes along a camera, and
takes many pictures for his private collection.

Many people think of Bing's association with horses as being entirely
limited to the racing variety. This is far from the truth, as he is fine
equestrian, and certainly no city dandy. He spent much time in the saddle in his
racing days, rising early and working like one of his own hands, often
looking just like one too, with an old shirt and faded jeans, and battered
saddle. Bing has no vanity, with all his wealth and fame. The kid's a card



"MY KIND OF MUSIC IS COMING BACK ! " BY BING CROSBY as told to
Bob Willett.

" Rock and Roll is on the way out, "says BING, "The easy-going ballads will soon be 'in'."

.....

Hollywood: Like many adults, I've been in the habit of switching off the radio rather quickly the last couple of years. Two bars of rock 'n' roll and I reach for that dial. But despite those jangling guitars, I've stayed optimistic about the future of popular music. Having lived through fads before, I felt sure that the "big beat" wasn't a permanent affliction.

Now I guess I was right. Rock 'n' roll seems to have run its course and is no longer the dominant influence in the pop field.

Parents have learned again what they've known before: teen-age crazes are part of growing-up, and there's nothing we oldsters can do about them. I'll bet rock'n' roll would have run its course long ago, if we had not criticised it so much and made the kids defend it !

Rock'n'roll has been king for five or six years partly because it provided a reasonably valid excuse for showing off---the Elvis Presley fans versus the Ricky Nelson fans, and the winners taking on the Fabian followers. (Note to square adults: Fabian is a 17-year-old singing sensation who has lots of dark wavy hair and co-stars with me in my new movie, "High Time"). Youngsters love to compete with each other to be the farthest "gone" and knock themselves out over singers.

But Elvis wasn't the first singer to shake people up. Frank Sinatra had teen-agers blowing their stacks, and long before he came along a fellow named Rudy Vallee did a pretty fair job. I don't remember anyone screaming over me--- I usually lulled them.

I think we older squares should always try to be tolerant of teen-age tastes. After all, rock'n'roll is simply another name for an old style, a rolling, repeated bass under a blues melody.

I think that wide acceptance of rock'n'roll was unavoidable. Modern jazz became so progressive, so cool, that it lost its beat. Kids couldn't dance to. So in came the big beat, with its thumping electric guitars. It was a rhythm strong enough to walk on. It made you tap your feet, and if you were young enough, you danced.

But now the teen-agers seem to have had their fill of shoo-bee-doo-bee-doo, just as the older generation outgrew the Charleston tunes and step-rhythm numbers of the '20's. It shouldn't surprise us that the kids suddenly switch their tastes. As a teenager, I remember I was always either way up or way down. What suited my mood one day wouldn't send me at all the next.

My main interest was jazz, and it had me spell-bound. In those days King Oliver, Fletcher Henderson and other greats were grinding out some pretty warm stuff, but nobody blew hotter than the Mound City Blue Blowers. I set out to copy them, the way kids lately have been imitating Presley. I recall using a kazoo and a tin can to get the effect of one of the Blowers' trombone tricks.

A music company in my native Spokane was our jazz class-room. We met there to listen to the latest and practice playing by ear. With my pal, Al Rinker, I practically lived there. I'm sure that our parents were as worried about our 'crazy music' as today's parents have been about rock'n'roll.

Now that the rock stuff seems to be on the way out, what's going to take its place ? There are encouraging signs. Johnny Mathis has made it big without resorting to rock rhythms. And Jimmy Rodgers' recording hits are more folksy than frantic. I think it is a good sign when Teresa Brewer can cut a side like "Lost a Little Puppy" and then concentrate on ballads. Maybe the next fad will be the music I like best....Slow, pretty ballads.

We've got some wonderful singers around who can really do justice to a song. Pat Boone gets my vote. Nat "King" Cole also. Frank Sinatra is still a whale of a singer. Perry Como is one of my personal favorites, and you'll notice that he has stayed right up on top, without resorting to the big beat.

And how about the old groaner ? Well, I've been practicing a bit, singing Tex and Mary Frances to sleep. He's 21 months old and the little doll is seven months old. They seem to like my lullabies, without rock'n' roll. Kathryn likes to sing too.

My new albums released recently are definitely non-big beat. One goes away back into American history, and consists of 44 authentic folk songs. Another includes 33 old favorites for home harmonizing. So you can see, I'm going all out for what I call "good music". Who knows ? Maybe there are some good notes left in the old boy ! Now that the rockers have rolled away I may even come up with another hit !

End.

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A TALE FROM BING.....EARS LIKE WINGS.

S.F. Examiner.

by Earl Wilson. Wed. Mar. 23rd. 1960.

New York- March 22....HOW ARE YOUR EARS ? Bad or good, don't have 'em remodeled.

Perry Como tossed a party for his guest star BING CROSBY-- at which Bing remembered to the delight of all the listeners, how he almost missed a career because his ears were too big.

"A Hollywood casting director, "Bing retalled, across a table at Danny's Hideaway, said, " You won't do....your ears are like airplane wings."

"he said when my ears were flapping I had a wingspread as big as the King Ranch in Texas, with all the gates open."

"Later another director took a chance on me, but glued my ears down with spirit gum. They pressed my ears back with a tight band around my head, 'til I looked like a frightened whippet."

Bing finally walked off a picture in rebellion....and they called him back and allowed his ears to be them-selves. Some other actors who submitted to plastic surgery, wound up with beautiful ears, but never worked again.

Bing, wife Kathy, and baby son will spend several days at Como's home at Jupiter, Fla., then he'll go to Las Vegas to see the three Crosby Boys (excluding Gary, who's got throat trouble) open at the Desert Inn, with Phil Harris.

" I saw them rehearse....and they're going to be great...I hope," Bing told Toots Shor, Jack E. Leonard, brother Everett and other party revelers.

Bing considers Bob Hope and Phil Harris the funniest men he knows.

TWO OLD BOYS GIVE THE BEAT BOYS A TANNING.

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This brings me to "V" disc 729 - Army issue for here we find the same medley, different take, however, which makes both treasured pieces. The Orch. is the same. also the Charioteers are with Bing again.

I remember a few years ago, well about 30 to be near the mark (after all time does not matter so much to a Crosby supporter) listening to a disc on which someone was singing "Just a Bundle of Old Love letters". At the time I was about eighteen years old, and living at the top of a house, the lower part of which was occupied by my cousin Bill and family. Bill was, by the way, the proud owner of an old H.M.V. Gramophone, with a gigantic horn.

Although he had about a dozen records, two of which he would play again and again. One was called, "I'm Happy When I'm Hiking" (remember it old folks) sung by a group, and the other was the tune mentioned above.

I had not the slightest idea who the singer was at that time. I was more interested in sport, and cash being rather short, I could not run to buying records let alone a gramophone.

However, one would go the records each evening the same two, and whatever I was doing came to a stop, while I listened to the magic of that voice singing "Bundle Of Old Love Letters". I got interested enough to find out the name of the vocalist. It was, of course, Bing! By this time I was earning a little more money, so I visited the local market-place and bought an old-type cabinet gramophone, and began collecting such records as Bing- Layton and Johnson- and the Mills Brothers. As time passed I soon realised I was interested only in Bing; so proceeded to give away all the other artists; stocks of Bing discs mounted as the years passed....Then came the war.... Bang went my collection of records; and it was not until recent years that I began again collecting Bing discs, mostly, of course, on L.Ps. It is curious, that although I have almost everything on L.P. disc I still haven't one song I first heard Bing singing. "A Bundle of old love letters." So now I am going backwards, collecting 78s. I may even come across it one day. Before closing I should to say a special word for dear old Bill now unhappily no longer with us. He was a tremendous help to me in collecting Bing early material. I shall miss him so very much as will all fellow members.

Signed.....Jack Manners.

The following letter was sent in by member JACK MANNERS Of 8, Jardin St.

Camberwell S. E. 5.

It is a reply by GALA RECORDS, of 114-116 Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. to a letter from Jack.

Dated 16th May.

Dear Mr Manners,

We thank you for your letter of the 12th Inst. addressed to Mr Dick Howard regarding the Bing Crosby L.P.s we have issued. As you may know, unfortunately we were not able to get these records on to the market until two or three days before Christmas, with the result that sales were not as great as they may have been, and as these are primarily Christmas items we will be unable to obtain full information on how they have fared, until later in the year.

With regard to "Jack be Nimble" and "An Apple, An Axe and a Buckskin Jacket", it is difficult to say whether or not they will be issued this year as we feel we should give the other two (Assist-Ed. "Never Be Afraid; Ali Baba and the 40 thieves") Gala L.Ps price 16/9.) a real chance before bringing out new releases by Bing.

Should there be any further development, please be assured that we will let you know as early as possible so that you can inform your members of our intentions.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely

Gala Records

(Signed) R.H. Crosskey. Assist. Director Of Production.

This next letter is not on the same happy note, and it is with regret that we have to include it in the "Post".

TED LAKER WRITES.

Hi there, Just a brief word in your ears, members; there is going to be a staff change in the line-up of the staff of "Crosby Post". Owing to other commitments and interests encroaching on my time, I find I am unable to give as much time as is necessary to the job of Publicity Officer. So, after much deliberation, I have decided to resign from the post, rather than continue in a half-hearted attitude, a continue as an ordinary member. Maybe, if you can still bear them, I'll trot out an occasional article in the "MAJIC VOICE" series from time to time. I would like to wish all success to whoever steps into the post in the Publicity Dept. and offer my congratulations to Frank, Tony and the others who do such a great job on that institution, the "Crosby Post" Cheers, Signed, TED LAKER.

Assistant - Ed. We shall all look forward eagerly to any article Ted sends in. He is assured a permanent place with the Post by the ceaseless efforts he has made on behalf of the Society. I should like to say on behalf of Frank and all the members. Many thanks Ted - sorry you can't remain with us on the staff, but happy to know you will continue on as a club member.

Frank presents.....THE GROANER IN THE GROOVE.....

Hello collectors,

As I mentioned earlier, the position regarding new material is really serious over here in England. When we discussed the situation in the April Post, we really felt on top of the world for the outlook seemed really rosy, now certain things have happened and we can't feel too happy - let's hope that the company's concerned can iron out the problems they have and get these new material we all look forward to, out as soon as possible.

Only one new issue to report this time and it is.

"IN A LITTLE SPANISH TOWN" Brunswick 12" L.P. IAT 8331

"Siboney" - "Hasta Manana" - "You Belong To My Heart" - "Baia" (all with Xavier Cugat's Orchestra) "Quizas, quizas, quizas" - "Granada" (both with The Banda Da Lua) "In A Little Spanish Town" (With The Buddy Cole Trio) "Vaya Con Dios" - "Amor amor" - "Alla en el Rancho Grande" (all with John Scott Trotter's Orchestra) "Let Me Love You Tonight" - "Flores Negras" (both with Victor Young's Orchestra).

ALL the above are re-issues and with the exception of "Vaya Con Dios" - "Quizas, quizas, quizas" - "Granada" and the title song, all the others appeared on a previous Brunswick album titled "EL BINGO" IA 8529.

The only reason I can think why this album has been issued at all is that Brunswick have brought El Bingo up to 12" L.P. size as I believe this is the most popular seller of the two sizes. It's a great pity that we could not have had a new L.P. of unissued material though, for most of us already have IA 8529 plus the other 4 on various L.P.s, and 78s. I hope that when the next Post comes out, we shall be able to present a more worthwhile "Groaner" feature, meanwhile keep those cards going to the records company's and disc programmes - we must keep the Bing flag flying high.

Until August, all the very best to you all. Frank.

SPECIAL NEWS When Bing Crosby guested on the Perry Como Musical Hall - BBC Television Sunday May 8, Member of the Society and good friend of mine, John Maughan of 1 Lauderdale Ave, Wallsend on Tyne, brought his tape-recorder to my home and we recorded the whole show on tape. I have decided that it would be a good idea if we had discs made for those of you who would like them, and the disc which will contain the highlights of this great 50 minute show will cost approximately 37/6 post free. It will be a double sided 10" L.P.. Will those of you who are interested, send this amount to me within two weeks of receiving this journal - All copies of this issue have been sent out together, and I shall count exactly two weeks before closing the order list - please order as early as possible to give me time to get organised.

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY/BING CROSBY/MADGE HOLLIDAY, photos

With the very kind permission of Michael Holliday, we have been given the okay to make available to members of the club, the personal snaps taken on the occasion of Michael's visit to Bing in Hollywood. The complete set of 3 photos is 3/6 post free, please enclose a self addressed envelope. Endorse your PO payable to Frank Murphy at High Rowdon post office & enter these details on the lines provided on the PO. Please note - The closing date for orders is the same as for the disc mentioned above - two weeks from the posting out of this issue, I shall collect all orders together and place the final order with the photographer for the number required - Late-comers, will have to be disappointed. I hope to have more news next time of the tape/disc of Michael's visit.
